The “Video-in” module for the MacPicasso 540

Mac Paloma

English V 1.0

Impressum

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This documentation was created on an Apple Macintosh with QuarkXPress 3.3.2, Macromedia Freehand 7.0.1, Adobe Photoshop 4.0, a digital camera and a graphics converter.

Contents

1. General Information

The Mac-Paloma module expands the MacPicasso 540 graphic card to enable it to display video and TV images on the monitor, as well as to save individual fixed-images in all formats that QuickTime™ offers. At the same time, this module offers 3 different image sources (TV, Cinch and S-VHS input), as well as 3 audio sources (Mac-Audio, Audio1 and Audio2, as well as TV-Audio). Audio input is emitted via an output port by means of the included software.

The picture signal representation runs entirely on the graphic card, completely independent of the computer processor.

2. Installation of MacPaloma

2.1 Connecting the MacPaloma to the MacPicasso 540

The MacPaloma, with its long panel of male connectors, is attached directly to the long panel of female connectors on the MacPicasso 540 (in future referred to as MP540). In order to do this the connectors of the MacPaloma must be lined up with those of the MP540 so that the metal coverings are touching. Then, from under the MP540 and through the appropriate holes in the circuit board, the 3 plastic screws (included) should be attached to the plastic support of the MacPaloma. After this the Paloma is ready to be installed in the computer.

If the screws do not fit, please check if the connector panel has been correctly attached to the MP540.

To avoid eventual damage due to incorrect installation, please contact one of our service technicians if there are any problems. A list of contact addresses can be found at the end of this handbook.

2.2 Installation in the computer

- Open your computer
- Touch the recessed metal parts in the back panel to discharge static electricity from your body. (Unplug the power cord, which should still be plugged into a properly grounded outlet, only after this step.)
- Remove the casing covers from 2 connecting slots
- Carefully (!!!) insert the MP540 / MacPaloma combination into a free slot so that the card fences from the Paloma and MP540 cover the exposed casing openings.
- Insert the screws into the card fences and tighten them, or, as the case may be, be sure that the plastic hooks have snapped properly into place.
- Close the computer.
- Start the computer and install the included software.

2.3 Software installation

The program Paloma must simply be copied from the disk to your chosen location on your hard drive. When you first start, the program will display that no default data was found. All settings will then be put at standard levels. When you quit the program the actual settings will be saved in order to be used again the next time you start the program.

In order for the program to function properly, Version 2.5 (or later) of QuickTime™ must be installed.

2.4 Internal connections

Behind the Mac-Input port and the master output port there are two connectors with two rows of four prongs each (of which the outer two contacts are connected to jumpers). Here on the internal motherboard contacts you can feed the audio directly into the CD Audio Input port on the Mac motherboard. The second connection is used to feed the CD Audio signal into the MacPaloma.

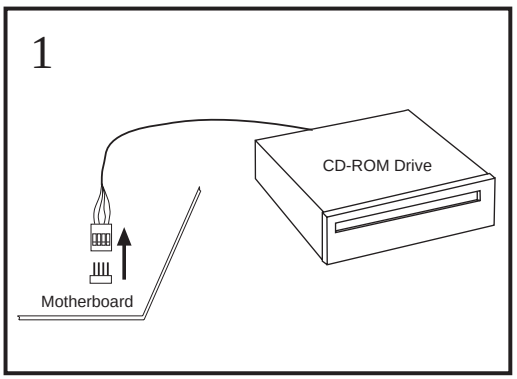
For internal cabling please follow the following steps and the four illustrations on the following page.

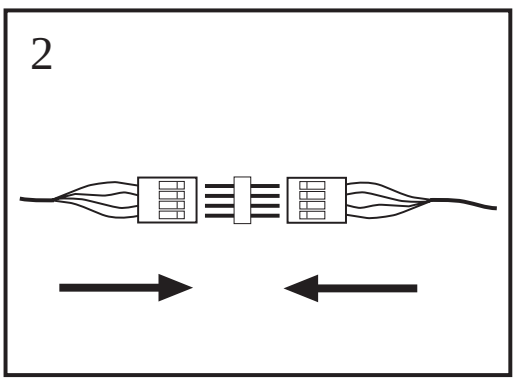
1) Remove the CD-Audio Input from the motherboard

2) If needed, lengthen the cable from the CD-ROM with the included cable set

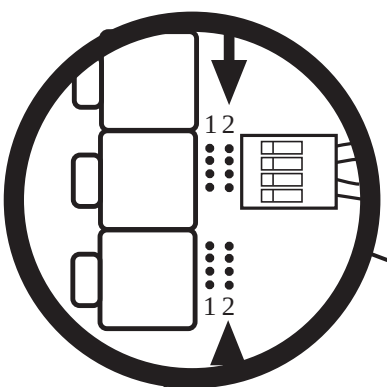
3) Connect the CD-ROM to the MacPaloma

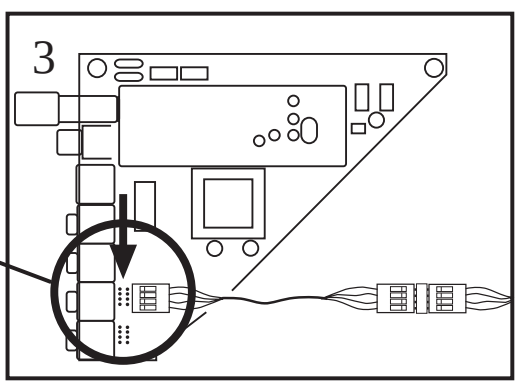
4) The final step is to connect the MacPaloma to the CD-Audio input port on the motherboard.

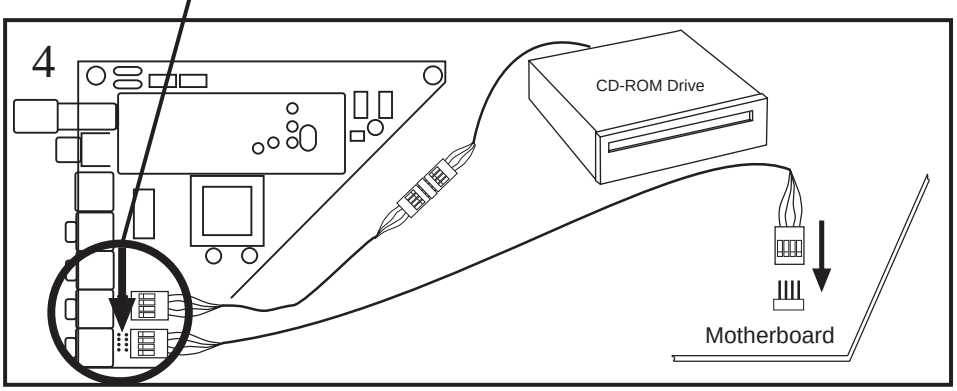




Please always use the second row of four receptacles on the sockets.







3. Menu descriptions

3.1 The “File” menu

- **Open:** opens the video window. If the video window is already open, this command can not be chosen.
- **Close:** closes the foremost window. This can be the video window or one of the configuration windows. This command can not be chosen if no window is open.
- **Fixed-image:** stops the video and saves the image that is being shown at that moment on your hard disk. The desired picture format and quality can be adjusted beforehand.
- **End:** ends the program. All settings that have been made will be saved in order to be used again the next time you start the program. In addition all external audio sources will be switched to mute.

3.2 The “Edit” menu

The functions offered here are only applicable in the channel storage dialog in order to copy blocks of text via the clipboard.

3.3 The “Window” menu

- **Picture settings:** opens the window with the picture options
- **Audio settings:** opens the window with audio options
- **Station settings:** opens the widow with station options
- **Open video window:** opens the video window
- **video window size:** in this sub-menu it is possible to choose one of four standard video window sizes.

3.3.1 The category Video Window Size

- **Half size:** switches to half of the size of the window
- **Normal:** switches to a 1:1 size ratio
- **150%:** increases the size to 150%
- **Full Screen:** fills the entire screen (the menu bar remains visible)
- **Full Screen 2:** fills the entire screen (the menu bar becomes invisible)

3.4 The “Language” menu

- **German:** switches to German dialogs and menus
- **English:** switches to English dialogs and menus

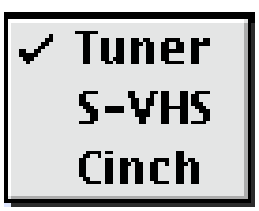
3.5 The “Help” menu

“Help” explanations can be turned on or off here.

4. Description of the main window

The video image from the most recently chosen source is shown in the main window. Information about which input port has been chosen and which stored station or channel it is set to will be shown in the header.

In the footer of the window you can choose the input port, change the color standard, choose the desired station from the list of saved ones and use the arrow to move the station up and down.



- **Tuner** switches to the video source TV-Tuner
- **S-VHS** turns to the video source which is attached to the S-VHS connection
- **Cinch** switches to the video source which is attached to the Cinch connection

- **PAL** switches to the color standard PAL
- **NTSC** switches to the color standard NTSC
- **Secam** switches to the color standard Secam
- **Auto** activates automatic station standard recognition

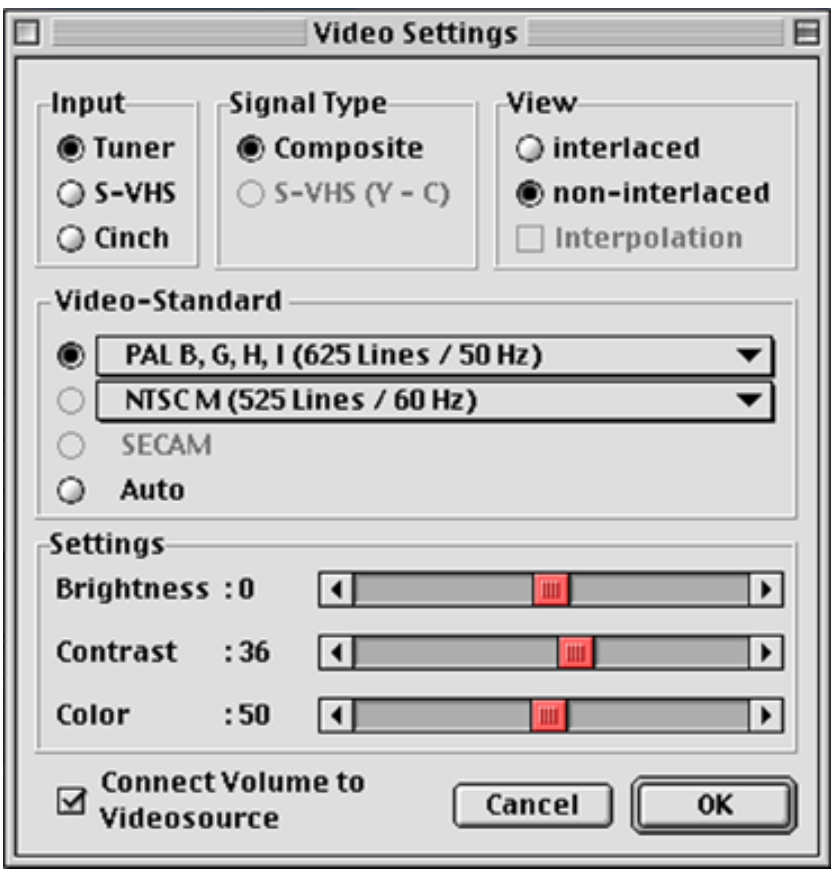
The pop-up menu shows the presently active station. To choose another station all you have to do is click on the menu and the choice of desired program. The actual station in use is indicated with a check mark.

moves up in the list

moves down in the list

5. Description of the dialog

5.1 Picture settings



In the **Input** space you can choose one of three connectable video sources. When choosing a video source the color standard will automatically return to the settings last used with this input port.

In the **Picture style** space you can choose between composite (FBAS) and S-VHS (separate cables for Crominanz and Luminanz). The picture style S-VHS is only available when Input is set to the S-VHS connection since this is the only Input port that supports this function.

In the **View** space you can choose if you would like the images to be shown interlaced or non-interlaced (the vertical resolution is halved).

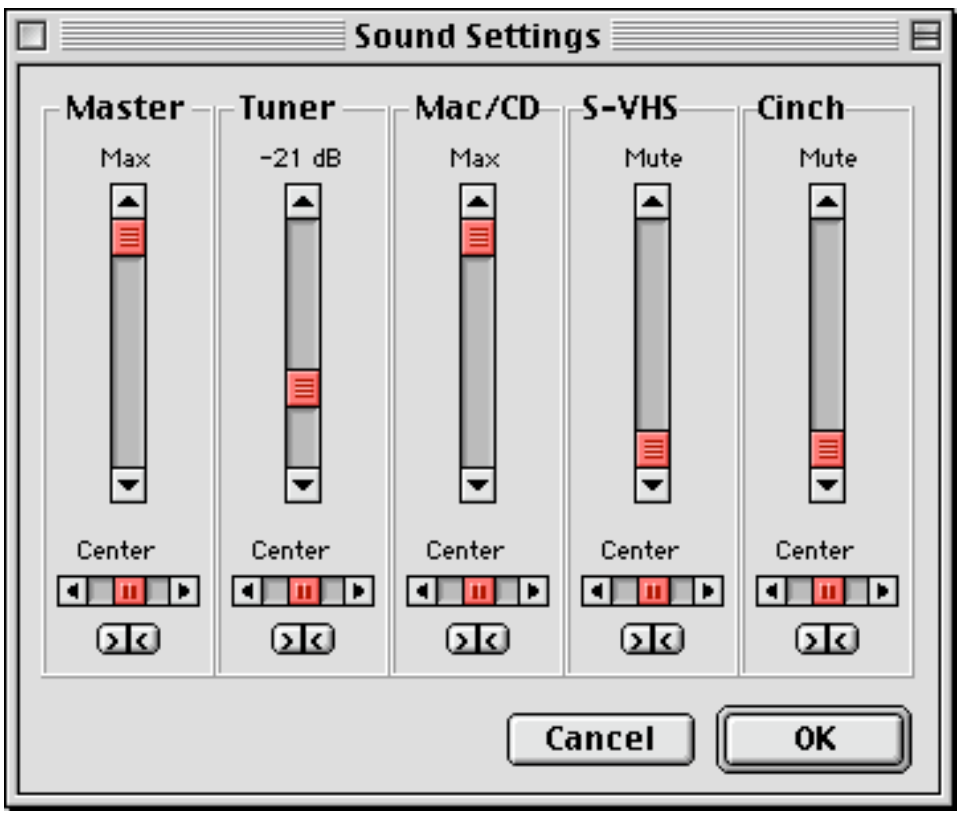
Interlaced is good for images with relatively little movement.

When there is more movement the **non-interlaced** mode is the better choice in order to avoid choppy movement. In monitor displays of up to 1152x870 in 75 Hz it is also possible to connect interpolation so that the edges will become softer.

In the area **Video Standard** you can switch between the different color standards PAL, NTSC and Secam, as well as between the sub-standards, PAL and NTSC. In addition, here it is also possible to turn on automatic color standard recognition. If Input is set to TV all color standards are blocked, except for **PAL B,G,H,I** and **automatic** because the built-in TV tuner for the German speaking market only supports this one color standard. In the US version a NTSC tuner is used, so all the other color standards except for **NTSC** and **automatic** are blocked.

Finally, it is also possible to adjust the brightness, color and contrast within Picture Settings. These can be changed by clicking and dragging within the gray area of the scroll bar (for bigger steps) or clicking on the arrow (single steps).

5.2 Audio Settings The window is divided into five segments. They are, from left to right:



1. Master: the volume of the mixed Output (which, for example, can be sent to an amplifier or speakers) is adjusted here.

2. Tuner: the volume of the TV receiver is adjusted here

3. Mac : the volume of the blended in Mac-Audio is adjusted here. In this way the Mac-Audio, can be heard along with the other audio sources on a pair of speakers or an amplifier.

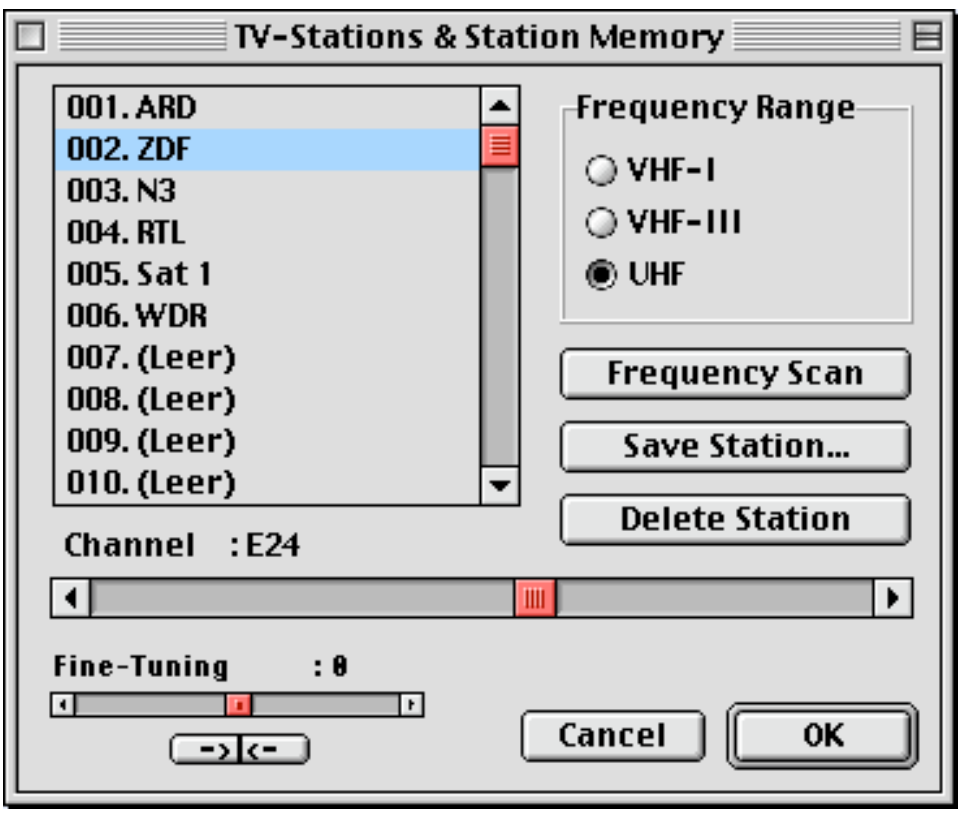
4. S-VHS: the Input volume associated with the S-VHS picture signal input is adjusted here.

5. Cinch: the Input volume associated with the Cinch picture signal input is adjusted here.

The balance of the signals is adjusted in the lower part of the area. The button under the Balance Adjuster can be used to reset it to the middle position.

At the very bottom there is a check box with which you can determine if the volume control is securely connected to the appropriate picture signal input. This means that all audio signals, except for the Mac-Audio, are switched to mute when the image input is switched. By a new change in the Input the appropriate volume setting would be restored and all other audio sources switched to mute.

5.3 Station Settings and Program Memory



In this dialog you can call up the stored stations, look for new stations and then save these in the list. Furthermore, saved stations can be deleted in order to free up more storage space. There are as many storage spaces as there are possible channels.

All of the saved stations are listed in the upper left area. With the scroll bar on the right side of the list it is possible to reach entries that are not visible. To choose one of these entries simply click on it with the mouse.

To the right of the station list there is the choice of frequencies. Here you can choose a station manually. Stations that have already been saved will be shown.

Below this there is a button to search for stations with. If this button is pressed the program will automatically search for the next station. The frequency will also change automatically when necessary.

The next button is used to save stations. There are 106 station slots available.

The next button deletes the presently active station after a warning message.

You can also choose channels directly with the scroll bar under the text with the channel numbers. The active station at the time is shown above it. This control is automatically adjusted when station search is being run.

At the bottom on the left there is a control for fine tuning. This can be brought back to the middle position by pushing the button under it. The fine tuning is saved extra for each station.

5.3.1 Channel memory

In this dialog box it is possible to enter a name for the station which is to be saved and to choose if it should be saved in the next available slot or one to be chosen freely. The field in which the number can be entered can always contain the next available number when it is called up. Unless, of course, only the fine tuning of an active channel has been changed. In this case the actual number and name are entered. The possibility to use the next available number is blocked.

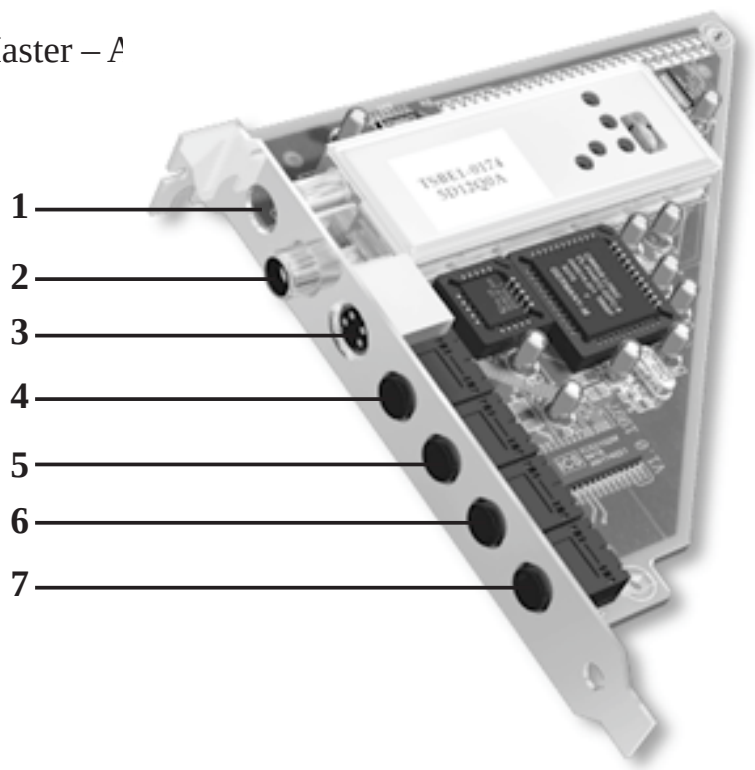
6. Keyboard Shortcuts

- The up and down arrows move up and down among the saved channels.
- the left and right arrows change the volume of the active video source
- in full screen mode the ESC key can be used to restore the previous screen size

7. Terminal Assignments

The terminal assignments are, from left to right:

- **1** antenna – input
- **2** Cinch – input
- **3** S-VHS – input
- **4** Audio 1 (assigned to the Cinch socket) – input
- **5** Audio 2 (assigned to the S-VHS socket) –input
- **6** Mac – Audio – input
- **7** Master – A



8. Terminal Specifications

Antenna connection (VHF, UHF)

FBAS Input, Cinch socket, terminated with 75 Ohm.

S-VHS Input, Mini-DIN socket, terminated with 75 Ohm.

Stereo Audio Input, socket for a 3.5 mm latching connector assigned to FBAS Input

Stereo Audio Input, socket for a 3.5 mm latching connector assigned to S-VHS Input

Stereo Audio Input, socket for a 3.5 mm latching connector, can be used as input port for Mac Audio output - instead - the introduction of the MacPaloma in the internal CD-ROM Audio socket of the Mac, which is normally used internally for audio from CD-ROM.(*)

Stereo Audio Output, socket for a 3.5 mm latching connector can be used as output port in place of the Mac Audio Output when the MacPaloma - not - is entered in the internal CD-ROM Audio socket of the Mac, which is normally used internally for audio to Mac motherboard.

(*) We recommend not to use these connections, but instead to create an internal connection from the CD-ROM audio to the motherboard of the Mac by using the two cables which we have included.

There are other possible connection variations in addition to the internal and external audio connections which were described here. The MacPaloma has an audio mixer with four input ports and one output port. This mixer could be activated before the Mac Audio Input or completely separately.

Help and contact addresses

If you have problems or questions about MacPicasso 340, please try to find a solution with the help of this handbook. If you can't find an answer in the material provided, please contact your dealer. If you purchased MacPicasso directly from Village Tronic or your dealer could not help you, our support is there for you. The preferred means of communication is e-mail. The e-mail address is:

support@village.de

Naturally we are also available via Fax, letter or telephone. The address and Fax and telephone numbers are at the end of the chapter. Please understand that our support is not available at all times and places.

In the WWW you will find us at http://www.villagetronic.com. There we provide new versions of the programs for MacPicasso and additional information.

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